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Soviet Asks Prison For Yankee Stroller



(Tass foto via UPI Cablefoto)
Newcomb Mott in the dock at
his trial in Murmansk.

Murmansk, USSR, Nov. 23 (Reuters)—The state called today for a 2½-year prison sentence for a young American accused of illegally crossing the border into the Soviet Union.

Newcomb Mott, 27, a book salesman of Sheffield, Mass., pleaded guilty at the opening of the trial yesterday, and said he crossed the border through carelessness and without thinking.

Asks for Clemency

Mott's Russian counsel asked for a probationary or conditional sentence. He said Mott, who entered Russia from northern Norway Sept. 4, bypassing frontier guards, should be allowed to return to the United States because of his "sincere repentance" and "mitigating circumstances."

The court recessed until tomorrow, when it is to hear a final statement from Mott and reach a decision.